

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 AF-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01 SCCT-01 SY-04 SAI-01

OMB-01 /082 W

----- 006584

R 031404Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8257

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PO, FI

SUBJECT: COVERAGE OPORTO DISTURBANCES

REF: LISBON 442

1. MEDIA COVERAGE BREAKUP OPORTO MEETING WAS HEAVY IN PRESS AND ON RADIO/TV. IT CONSISTED MAINLY FACTUAL ACCOUNTS BASED ON WIRE SERVICE STORIES. ON JANUARY 29 TWO MAJOR HELSINKI DAILIES, CONSERVATIVE UUSI SUOMI AND SWEDISH LANGUAGE HUFVUDSTADSBLADET, CARRIED FIRST PERSON ACCOUNT BY YOUNG FINNISH CONSERVATIVE ATTENDING MEETING AS OBSERVER. UUSI SUOMI ARTICLE CONCLUDES "DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL IS THREATENED AT ITS VERY BEGINNING".

2. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN RELATIVELY SPARSE AND OFTEN LINKED TO GENERAL SITUATION AND SOARES' WARNINGS. SUOMENMAA, HELSINKI MOUTHPIECE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INFLUENTIAL CENTRE PARTY STATED ON JANUARY 29 "ONE

CANNOT YET IN FACT SPEAK OF THE EXISTENCE OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM IN PORTUGAL. THE EXTREME LEFT AND THE AFM, WHICH IN MANY RESPECTS IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO ITS INFLUENCE, PURSUE A POLICY WHICH IS MOVING FARTHER AND FARTHER AWAY FROM DEMOCRACY AND WHICH IS AIMED AT PREVENTING THE POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF OPPONENTS AND AT IMPOSING CENSORSHIP...IT IS IN ANY CASE OBVIOUS THAT PORTUGAL IS NOW MOVING FAST TOWARD A POLITICAL SITUATION WHERE DEMOCRACY IS INCREASING NARROWED".

3. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC DEMARI IS MORE EQUIVOCAL IN JANUARY 29 EDITORIAL: "THE SMOTHERING OF THE RIGHT-WING OPPOSITION PARTY AS CONSEQUENCE OF ACTIVITY OF DEMONSTRATORS INDICATE HOW EXCITED EMOTIONS ARE IN PORTUGAL. THE CLASH BETWEEN THE EXTREMIST FORCES REACHED SUCH PROPORTIONS THAT EVEN THE COMMUNISTS TOOK A STAND AGAINST THE STIRRING MASSES". DEMARI CONCLUDES THAT "PROVOCATIONS ARE THE GREATEST DANGER AS PORTUGAL READIES FOR ELECTIONS. AT THEIR WORST THEY COULD EVEN DESTROY DEVELOPMENT ON THE BASIS OF PEACEFUL MULTI-PARTY COOPERATION AND RESTORE DICTATORSHIP".

4. COMMUNIST KANSAN UUTISET DID NOT WEIGH IN UNTIL JANUARY 31 WHEN IT ATTACKED UUSI SUOMSI "CLAIMS" THAT THE COMMUNISTS ARE IN ALL RESPECTS TRYING TO PREVENT THE REALIZATION OF NORMAL DEMOCRATIC LIFE" IN PORTUGAL. KANSAN UUTISET REJECTS THIS AS FLAGRANT DISTORTION AND PRAISES THE STRUGGLE OF THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS DURING HALF-CENTURY OF RIGHT-WING DICTATORSHIP. THE PAPER MAKES NO MENTION OF THE OPORTO EPISODE AND CONCLUDES "CAREFUL OBSERVATION OF EVENTS IN PORTUGAL IS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE STRUGGLE OF DEMOCRATIC AND REVOLUTIONARY FORCES OF OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TOO".  
KREHBIEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DEMOCRACY, PRESS COMMENTS, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PARTY MEETINGS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750039-0132  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COVERAGE OPORTO DISTURBANCES  
**TAGS:** SOPN, PO, FI  
**To:** LISBON  
**Type:** TE  
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